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REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is hereby respectfully requested.

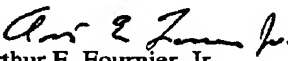
By this Amendment, original Claims 1 to 5, inclusive, are being cancelled and are being replaced by new Claims 6 to 9, inclusive. More specifically, original Claim 5, which has been deemed to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, has in order to accomplish this been rewritten as new independent Claim 6. In addition, also original dependent Claims 2, 3 and 4, which had been dependent on now cancelled original Claim 1, have now each been rewritten as new dependent Claims 7, 8 and 9, respectively, such that they now all trace their dependency to new independent Claim 6.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that new independent Claim 6 and new dependent Claims 7, 8 and 9, which each depend from new independent Claim 6, the only claims remaining under consideration in the instant application, are clearly allowable, and that this case is clearly in condition for allowance, and such action is accordingly respectfully requested.

In the event that the Examiner should find that this Amendment would, except for the existence of certain relatively minor matters, place the case in condition for allowance he is hereby requested to call Applicant's attorney of record in this application in order that these relatively minor matters may be readily disposed of.

On the other hand, should the Examiner be of the opinion that this Amendment does not place the case in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner enter this Amendment for purposes of appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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